SPONSOR: Bahr

This bill creates guidelines for health carriers to follow when contracting with chiropractors. Health carriers are required to reimburse licensed chiropractors the same as licensed physicians when performing the same or similar service. Health carriers cannot discriminate against chiropractors or limit their diagnosis, treatment or management of any condition, injury, complaint, disorder or ailment so long as the chiropractor is acting within his or her scope of practice. Health carriers cannot establish different payment formulas for chiropractors. Health carriers must permit chiropractors to participate in all patient-center medical home plans and home health care programs to the extent allowed by their scope of practice. Health carriers cannot change, alter, modify, combine, or bundle any of the diagnostic or current procedural terminology code or codes submitted by a healthcare provider for healthcare services rendered to a patient without the express written permission of the healthcare provider and without a thorough examination of the patient or patient's record performed by a licensed provider in the same field as the submitting healthcare provider. Health carriers cannot reimburse a chiropractor less than one hundred ten percent of the Medicare rate.